

SMACNA Safety Profile 2008

Performance and Characteristics

August 2008

Introduction

Each year SMACNA conducts a Safety Awards Program to recognize SMACNA members with the lowest accident/illness rates in the prior calendar year. Awards are presented to participating contractors with the lowest accident/illness incidence rate (as computed using the OSHA lost workday incident rate formula). There are various award categories based upon a contractors hours worked.

Information submitted for the contest provides a rich data base for evaluating sheet metal industry safety performance. Findings are summarized in this report. In addition, contractors participating in the awards contest are provided with information to permit them to compare their own safety performance with other similar size contractors and those performing similar types of work.

The Safety Awards Program also profiles many aspects of SMACNA members safety efforts. Information has been gathered on the prevalence and characteristics of safety programs and training and their impact on contractor safety performance. Some trend data are also included. Particular attention is given to drug and alcohol abuse programs.

Summary of Findings

Safety performance data provided by 212 SMACNA contractors indicated that:

- o The lost workday incident rate was 5.06
- o Almost one-third of all contractors reported a lost workday incident rate of zero.
- o Lost workday incident rate generally declined as hours worked increased.
- o The average EMR was .79, lowest of the decade
- o An increase to almost half of contractors with no lost workdays.

Characteristics of safety policies and programs of most SMACNA contractors include:

- o A company safety policy.
- o A designated competent safety coordinator.
- o Regularly scheduled training programs.
- o A variety of safety training materials from SMACNA and other sources.
- o A formal program for drug and alcohol abuse (more than three-quarters).
- o Increased utilization of SMOHIT safety products.

SMACNA Safety Summary

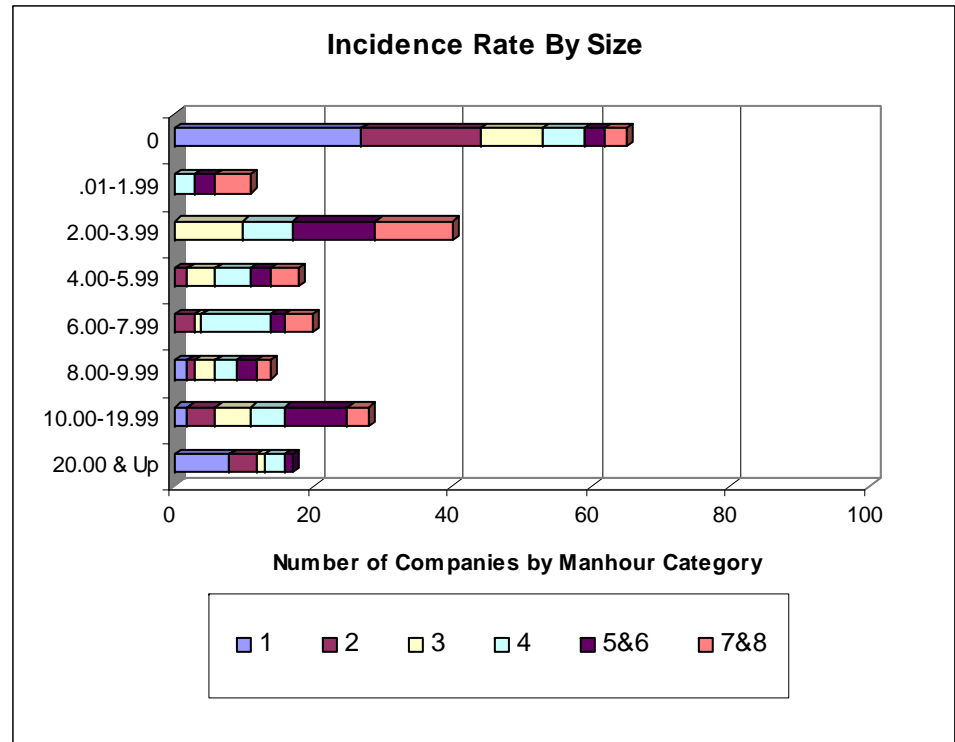
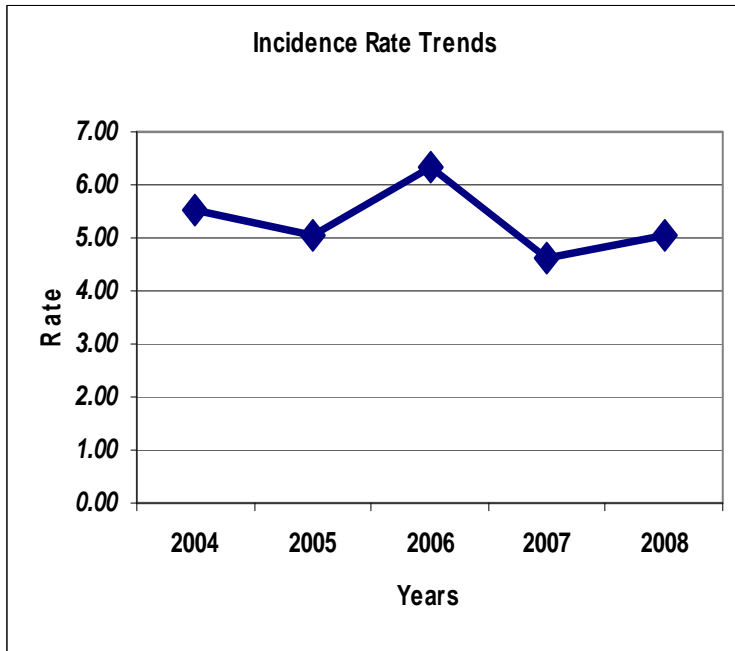
Class Size	Reports	Hours	Number of Incidents	Incidence Rate
1	38	533,647	28	10.49
2	31	1,111,309	38	6.84
3	33	2,353,994	63	5.35
4	42	6,011,611	196	6.52
5	26	6,448,556	215	6.67
6	10	3,297,284	102	6.19
7	6	2,657,335	65	4.89
8	26	25,414,005	503	3.96
Grand Total	212	47,827,741	1,210	5.06

Class Size

- 1 1-25,000 hours
- 2 25,001-50,000 hrs.
- 3 50,001-100,000 hrs.
- 4 100,001-200,000 hrs.
- 5 200,001 - 300,000 hrs.
- 6 300,001-400,000 hrs.
- 7 400,001-500,000 hrs.
- 8 Over 500,000 hrs.

This year there were 212 participating contractors in the SMACNA Safety Awards Program. These companies worked close to 48 million hours. Over half the total hours were reported by companies working over 500,000 in the year. Almost one-third of respondents reported no occupational injuries or illness with lost workdays. The average lost workday incidence rate was 5.06.

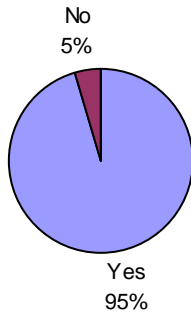
Responding contractors reported nearly 20,000 lost workdays. There were 95 contractors or 45 percent with no lost workdays. For those contractors who reported lost workdays because of occupational injury or illness, the average number of days was 92, up from a year earlier.



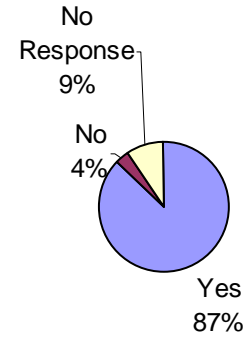
The average incidence rate increased somewhat in the past year to 5.06. It has, however, been in a narrow range in recent years. Some annual variation may be attributed to the changing mix of respondents by number of man-hours. As a reminder, incidence rate is a measure of frequency and does not necessarily reflect the severity of the cases (i.e., days away from work or restricted duty).

There were companies reporting no injury/illness cases in all size categories. Zero was, by far, the most common incidence rate reported, consistent with past years. Remaining companies incidence rates were spread throughout the range of reported figures.

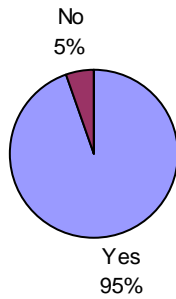
Safety and Health Program



Conduct Safety Inspections

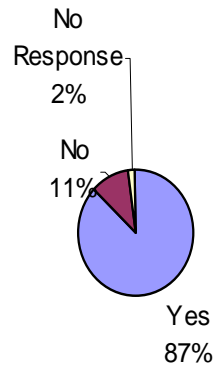


Designated Safety Coordinator

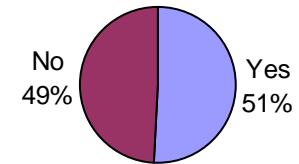


Written safety and health programs including a designated competent safety coordinator and regular safety inspections have become almost universal. The safety coordinator is usually a full time employee, especially in larger companies. Very few respondents utilize a third party to be responsible for company safety.

Use Safety Products & Services from SMACNA



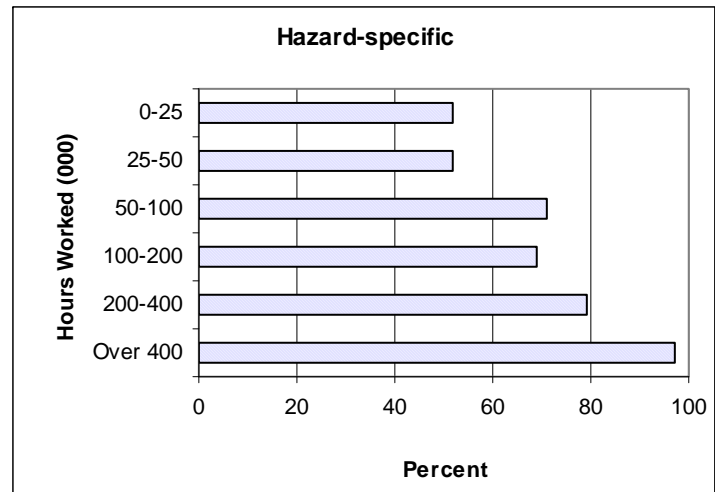
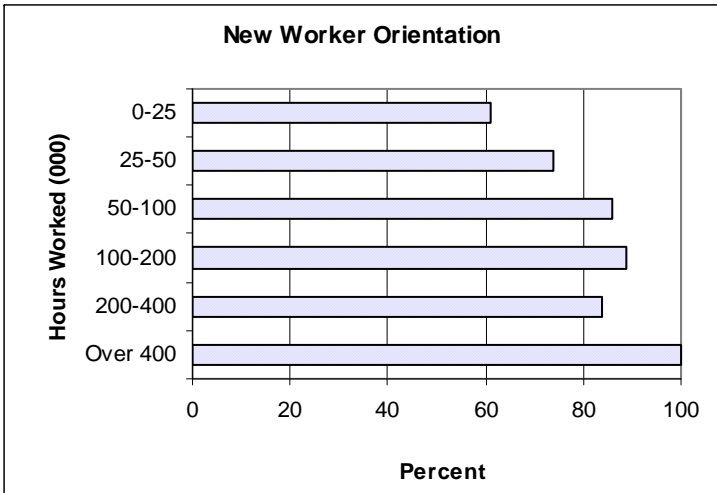
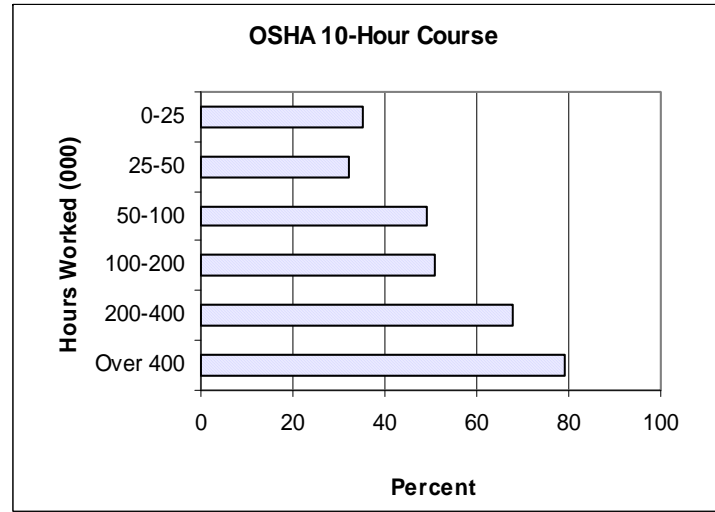
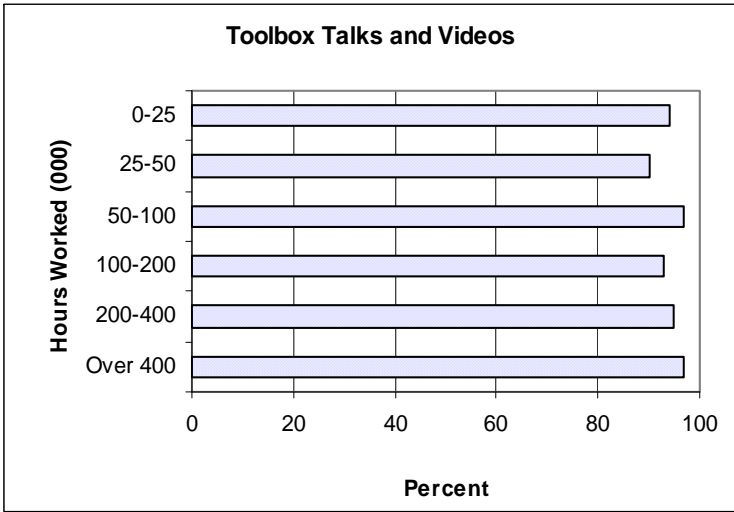
Use SMOHIT Safety Products

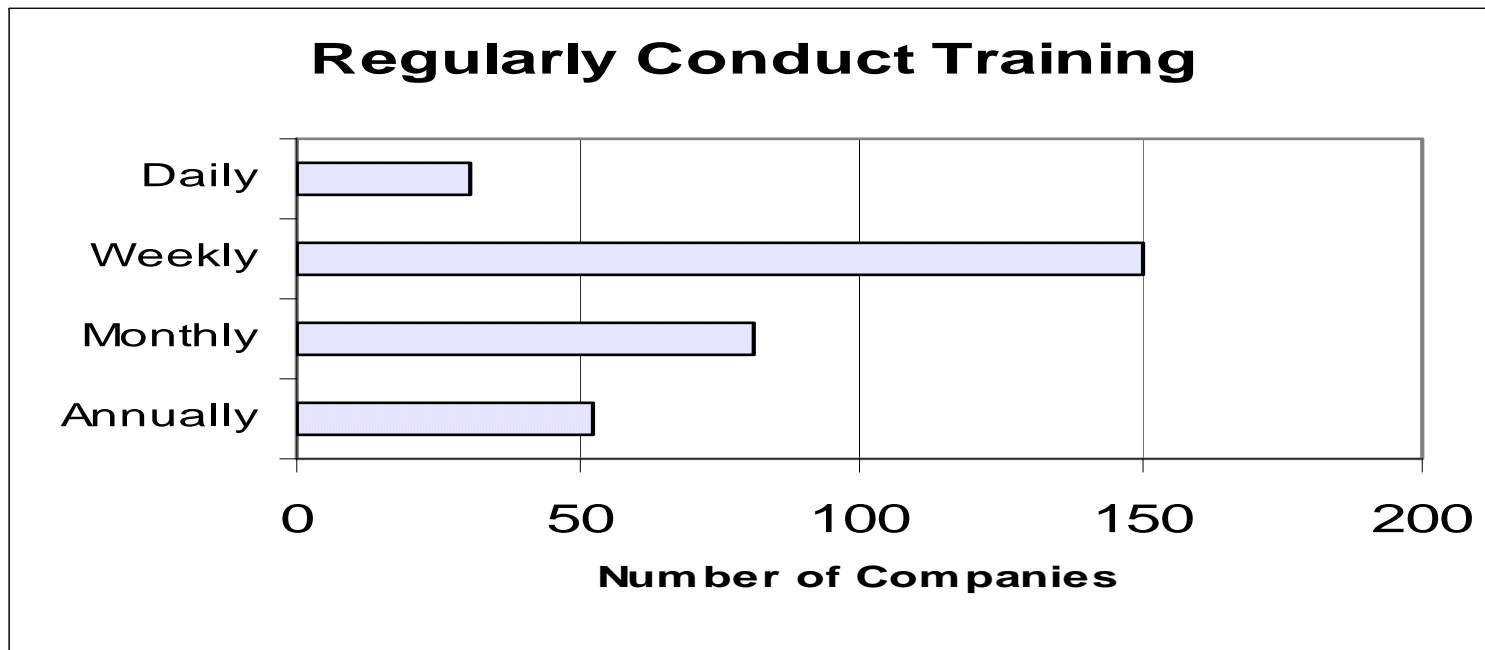


Most contractors use SMACNA safety products and services. As reported each year, a much lower portion utilize SMOHIT safety products, but this percentage continues to trend upward. While larger companies were more likely to use SMACNA as a source of safety materials, moderate SMOHIT usage was apparent for all size contractors.

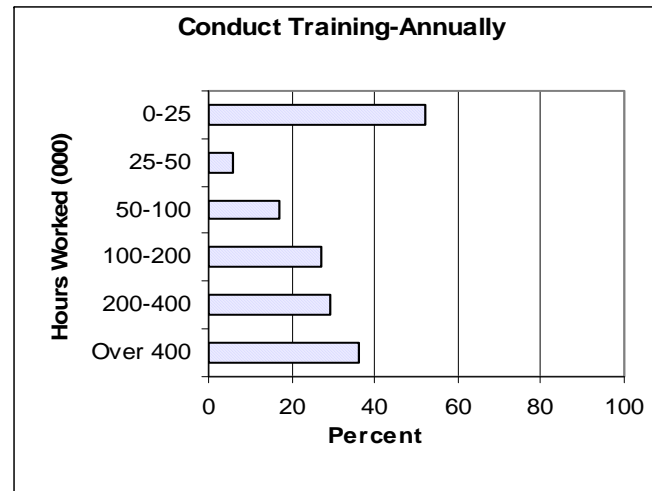
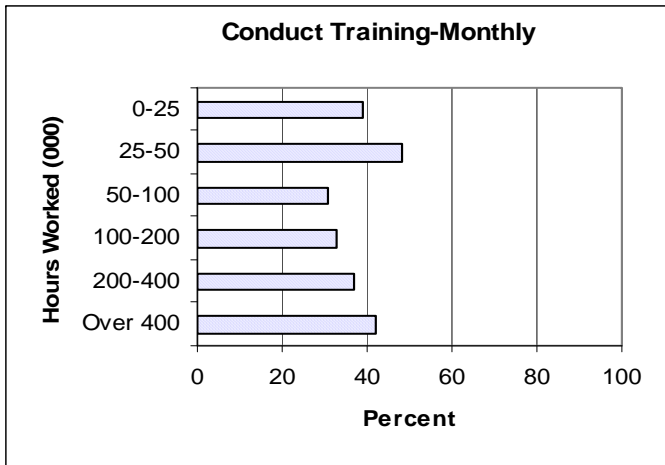
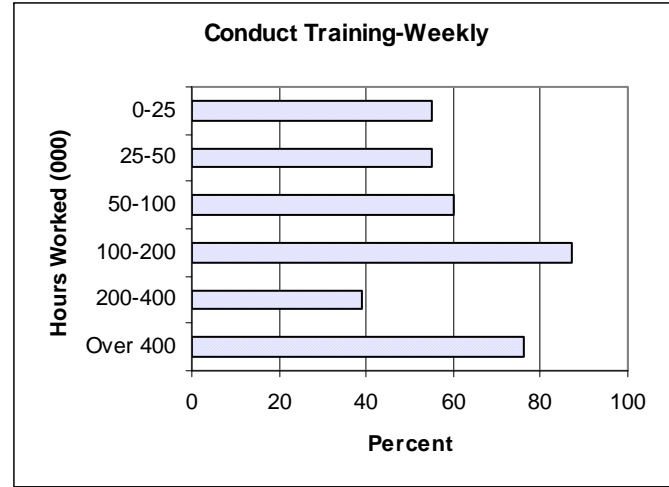
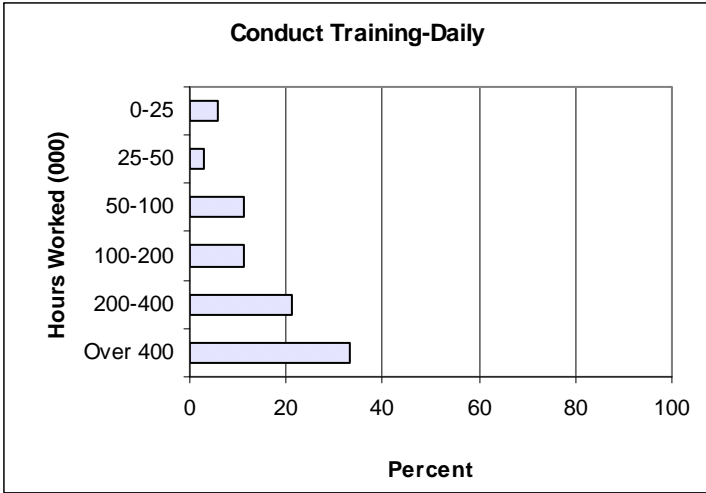


A number of types of training are utilized by contractors. Compared to a year earlier, there was little change in type of training or its prevalence, By contractor size, utilization of toolbox talks and videos is universal while usage of other categories of training increased with the number of hours worked by the contractor.

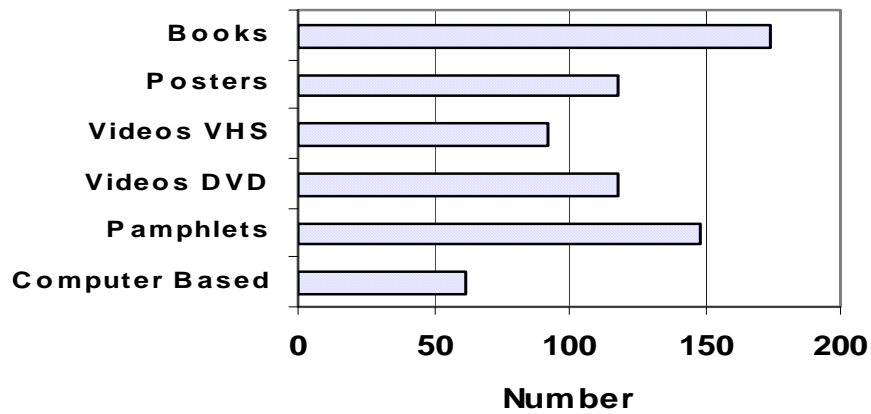




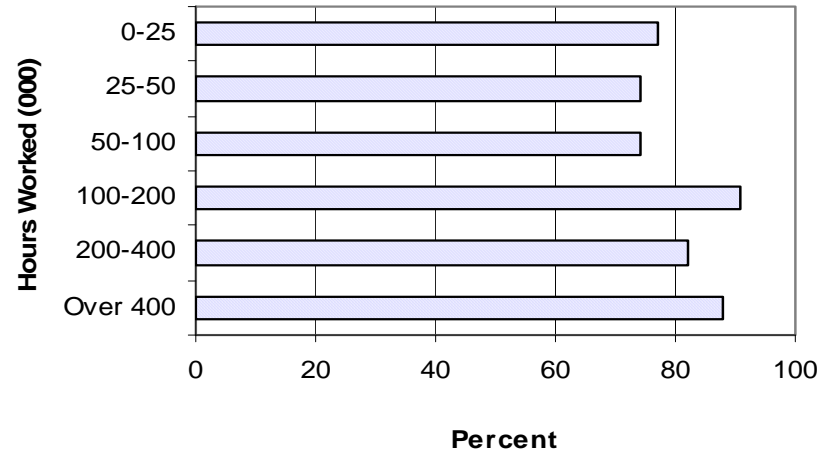
Most often contractors include training as a part of their weekly schedule. All sizes of contractors, by hours worked, favored a weekly training schedule.



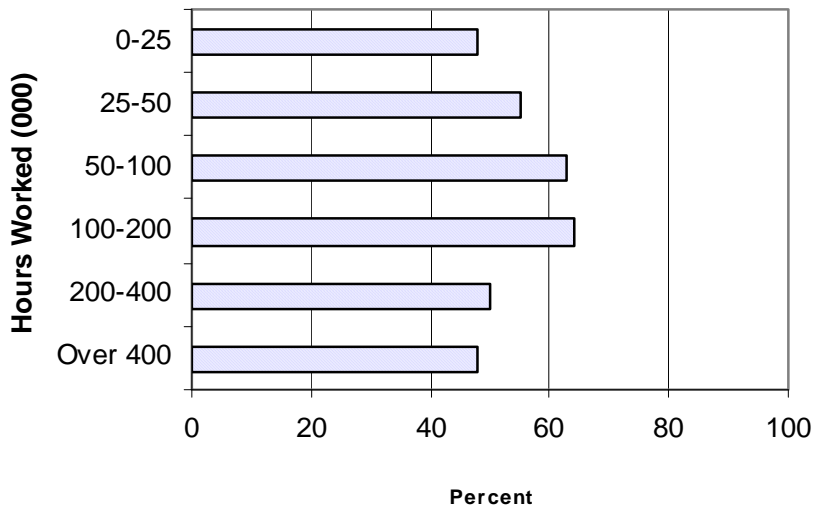
Types of Training Materials Used



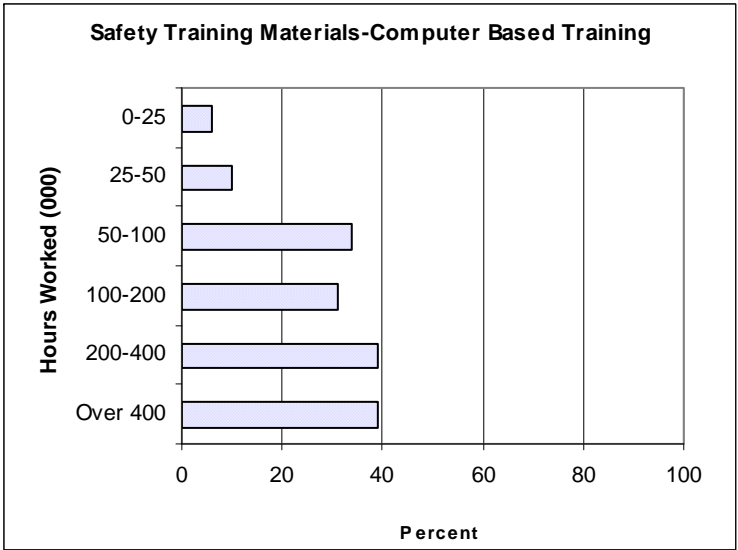
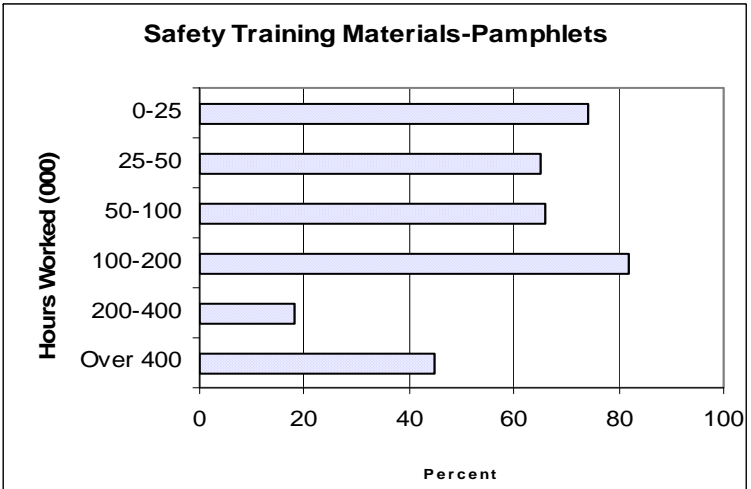
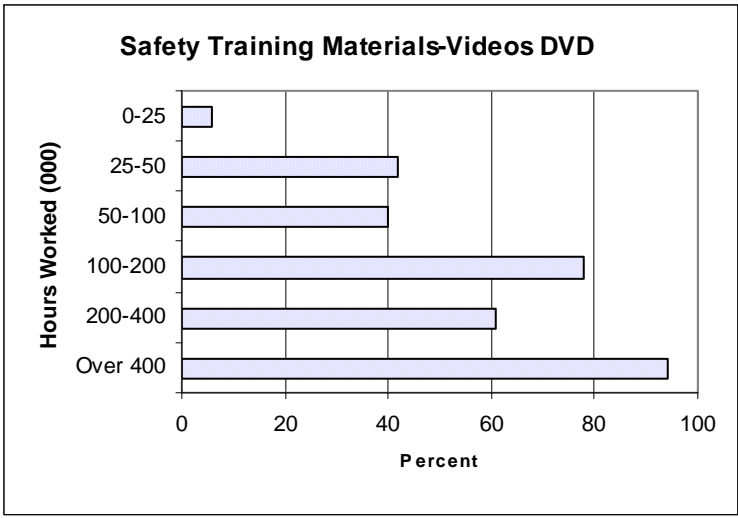
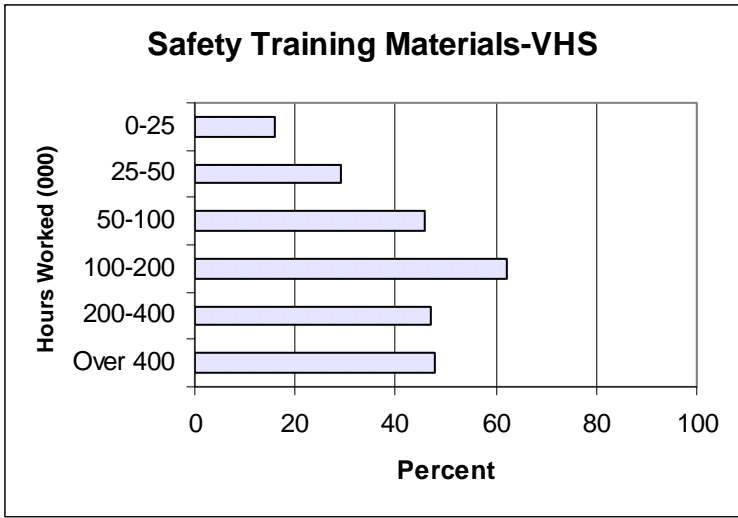
Safety Training Materials-Books/Manuals

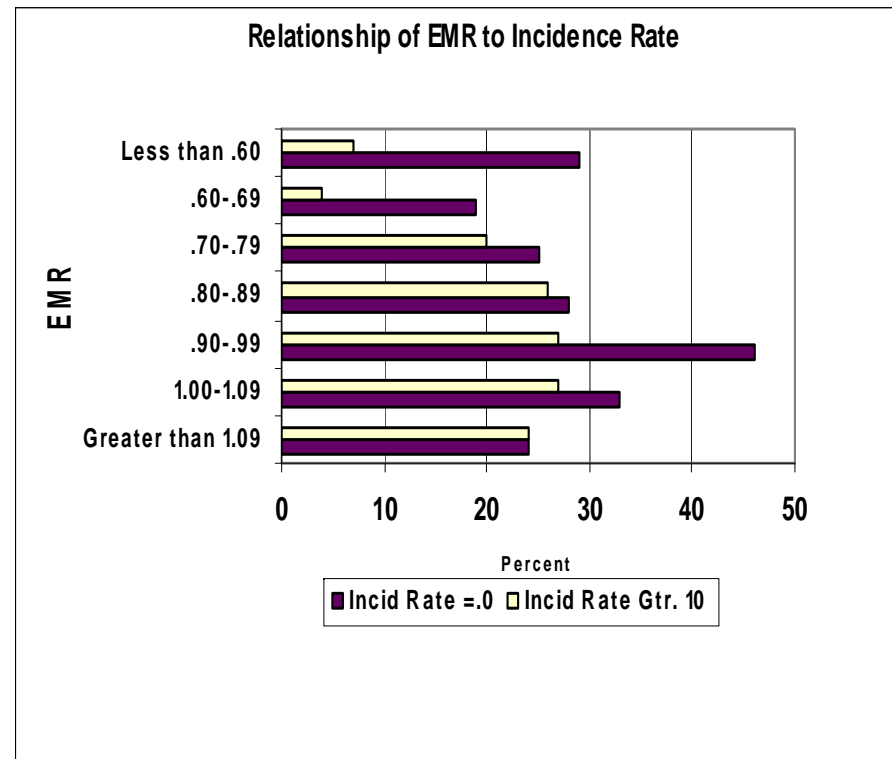
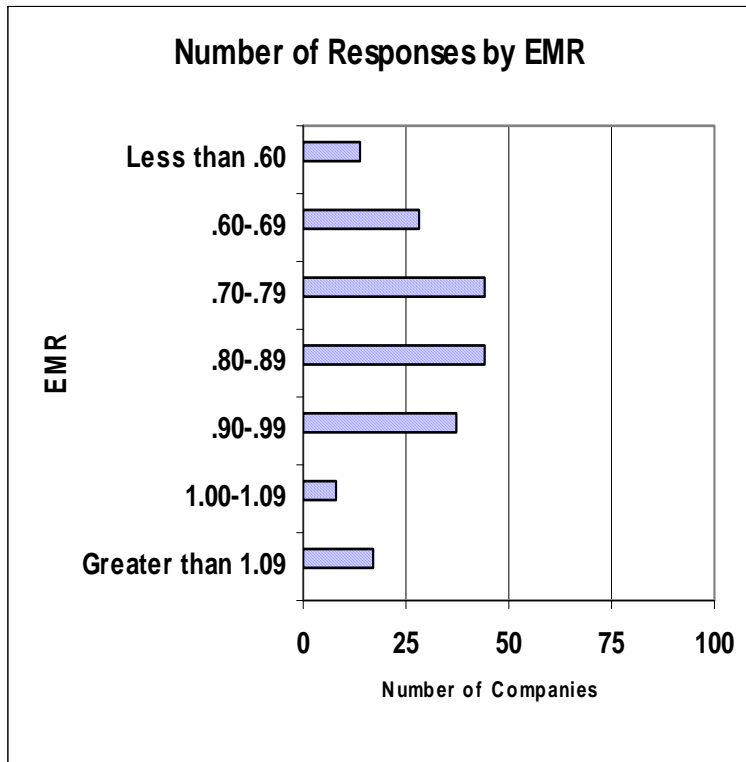


Safety Training Materials-Posters



A variety of materials are widely used by contractors to transmit safety information. Print materials are most commonly utilized. Books and manuals were most popular for all sizes of contractors, but pamphlets are more widely used by smaller companies. Some shift was experienced from VHS to computer based, including internet.





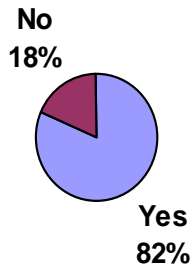
About 85 percent of companies reported an experience modification rate (EMR) of less than 1.0. Reported EMR's were distributed evenly between .70 and .99. The average EMR was .79, the lowest of the decade. There was only moderate correlation between a company's EMR and its lost workday incidence rate.

Industry Segment Safety

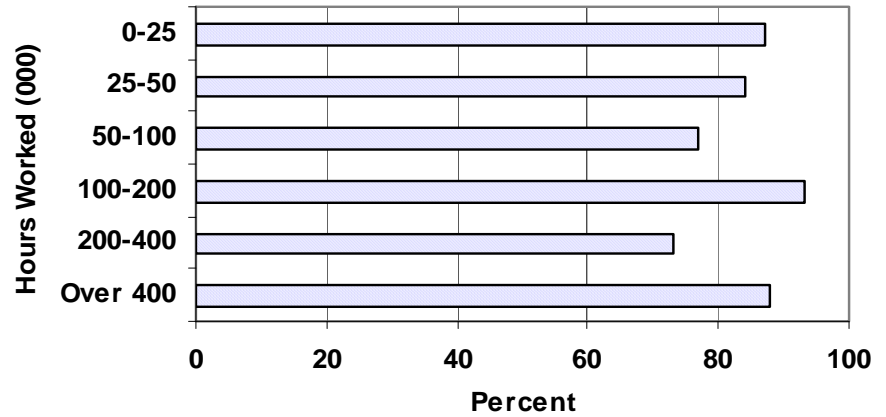
	Number	Hours	Incidents	Incident Rate
Commercial HVAC	115	22,627,714	501	4.43
Residential HVAC	34	717,545	15	4.18
Architectural Sheet Metal	50	1,114,271	26	4.71
Industrial Sheet Metal	93	6,586,529	148	4.48
Kitchen Equipment/Food Svs.	25	267,373	7	5.56
Manufacturing	34	819,423	18	4.39
Testing and Balancing	46	651,659	14	4.28
Siding and Decking	13	430,814	6	2.99

For a majority of respondents, it was possible to relate safety experience to type of work performed. Most reported work was HVAC. For most categories of work, incidence rate was between four and five. The exceptions were Kitchen, which was highest and Siding and Decking which was lowest. While the sample size is small, greatest improvement was made for Siding and Decking.

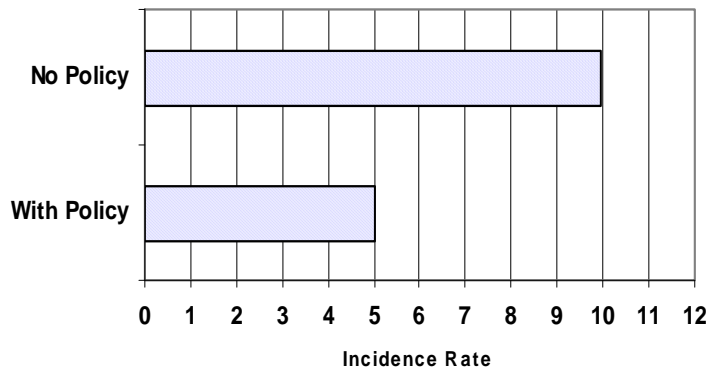
Formal Program for Drug and Alcohol Abuse



Formal Program for Drug and Alcohol Abuse

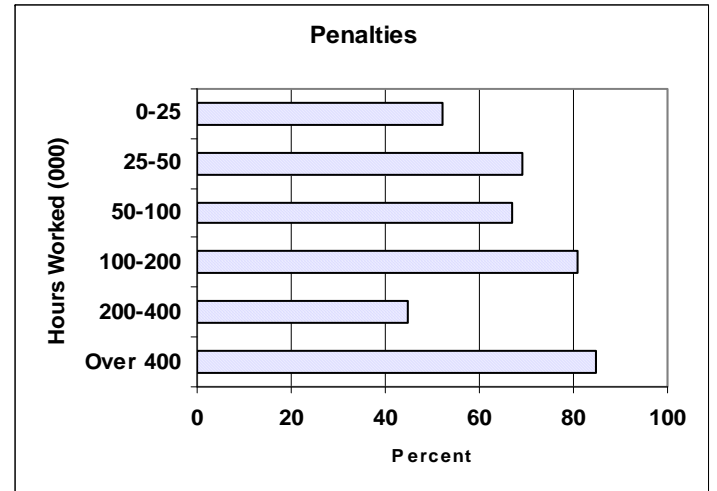
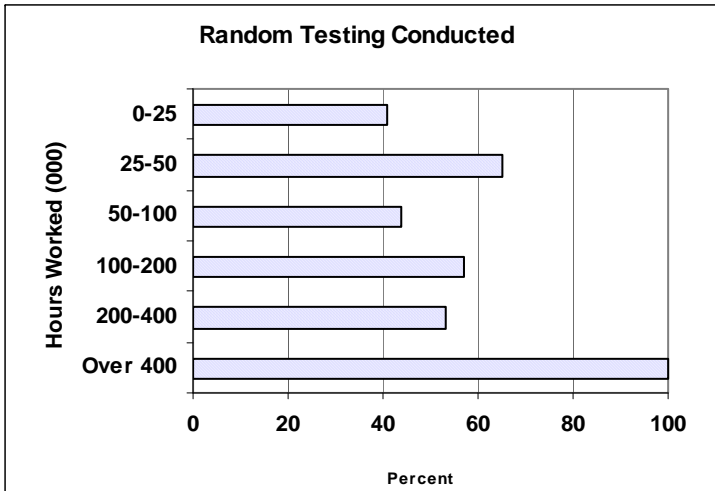
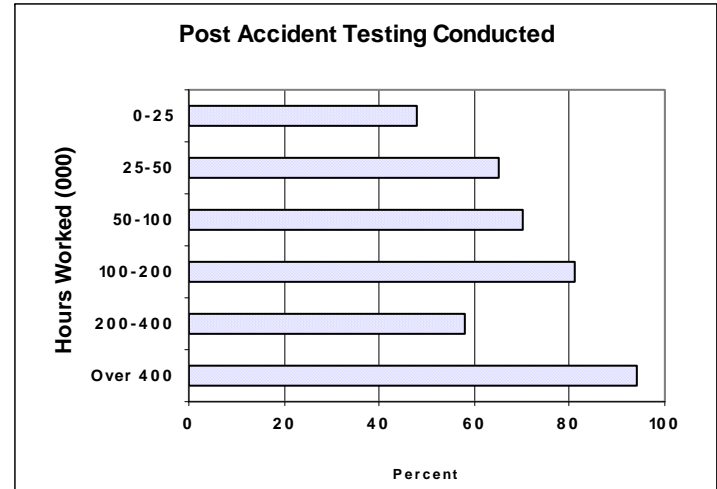
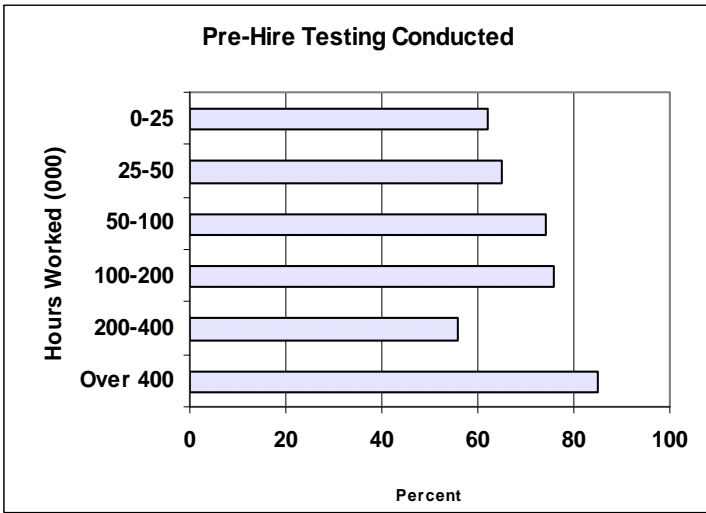


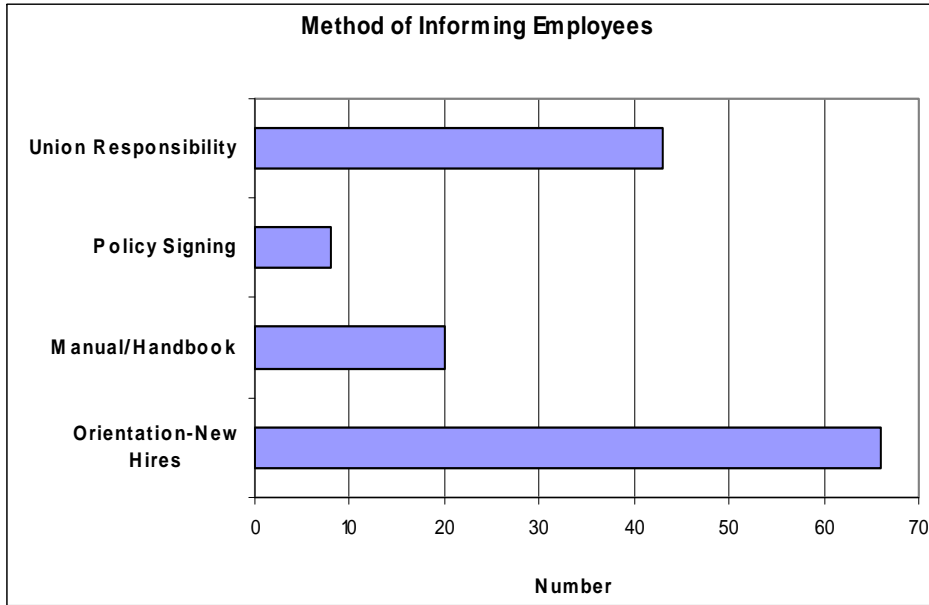
Incidence Rate by Drug Policy



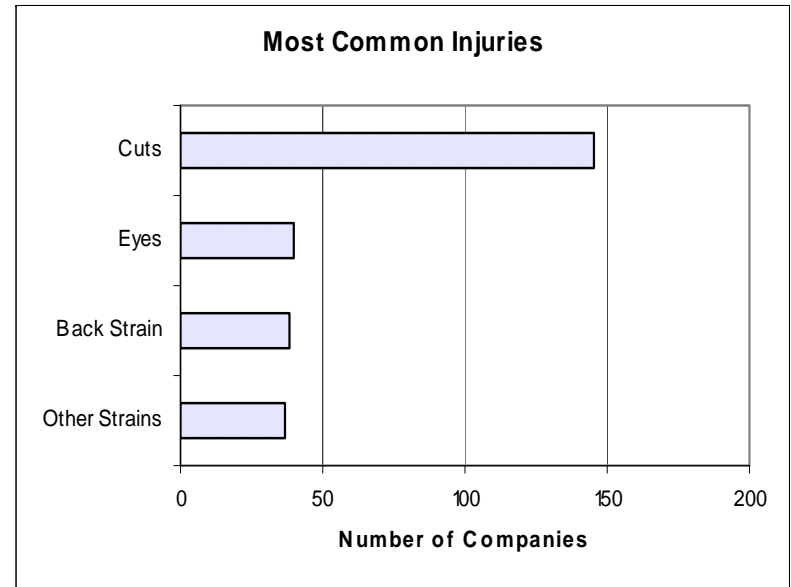
Most companies have a formal program for handling drug and alcohol abuse. They account for close to 90 percent of reported hours. All size contractors are likely to have implemented this type of program.

There continues to be a strong relationship between safety performance and a drug and alcohol abuse program. Companies with a program experienced a lost workday incidence rate of about half of those that do not. Programs are split between those that include some provision for testing and those that do not.





Contractors utilize a number of means to inform their employees as to their drug and alcohol abuse policies. Most commonly, it is part of an orientation program for new workers, but a significant number view this as a union responsibility.



Cuts, continue, by far, to be the most commonly reported injury. Some eye injuries may be cuts, as well.

SMACNA Safety Trends

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004 1/</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Incidents	1,282	1,267	1,450	1,326	1,197	1,429	1,494	1,446	1,339	1,210
Incidence Rate	4.25	4.47	4.04	3.99	4.61	5.52	5.06	5.21	4.62	5.06
Lost Workdays	21,650	18,665	20,106	15,617	25,591	26,086	27,605	24,371	20,547	19,467
Average Lost Workdays	97	97	114	87	145	168	160	82	84	92
Reported Hours (millions)	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	71.8	66.4	52.0	51.8	59.0	56.0	58	48
Safety & Health Program	94%	92%	91%	94%	92%	93%	93%	96%	98%	95%
Designated Safety Coord.	95%	95%	92%	94%	91%	87%	93%	97%	96%	95%
SMACNA Products	84%	89%	88%	88%	88%	83%	82%	84%	87%	87%
SMOHIT Safety Products							28%	37%	45%	51%
EMR	0.85	0.81	0.83	0.84	0.86	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.79
Drug Program	46%	51%	58%	64%	67%	76%	74%	78%	84%	82%
Number of Companies	334	303	292	322	296	252	283	298	243	212

1/ Data beginning in 2004 are not totally comparable to previous years due to significant changes in OSHA record keeping requirements.

2/Data not available.

SMACNA Safety Performance
Selected Issues

	<u>2008</u>		<u>2007</u>	
	<u>All Respondents</u>	<u>Superior Performances</u>	<u>All Respondents</u>	<u>Superior Performances</u>
Use SMACNA Safety Products	87%	73%	87%	90%
Have a Formal Drug Policy	82%	100%	84%	76%
Provide New Worker Orientation	83%	91%	80%	81%
Utilize OSHA 10 Hr. Training	53%	64%	50%	76%
Utilize Computer Based Training	29%	45%	25%	24%
Average EMR	0.79	0.86	0.85	0.86
Average Incidence Rate	5.06	0.58	4.62	1.01

Contractors with a higher level of safety commitment often experience better safety performance results than those with more basic safety programs. These “superior performers” implement policies and procedures to address key safety and health issues such as consistent training and a formal drug policy. Their safety programs are more often processes that are a part of a larger, corporate “safety culture”. For definition purposes for this exhibit, a superior performing contractor is one who worked over 100,000 hours and achieved a lost workday incidence rate of below 2.00.